

ITV Studios Netherlands
Familie de Mollaan 1
1217 ZB Hilversum
Netherlands

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UST202210-176/P.V.B.
09.06.01

Subject: permit to fly a drone, film and photograph at Geysir and Skógafoss

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from ITV Studios Netherlands, dated October 21st 2022, for a permit to fly a drone, film and photograph at within Geysir area and Skógafoss.

Geysir is protected as natural monument, cf. regulation no. 660/2020. All disturbance of geological monuments is prohibited, incl. any inscriptions and disturbance of the activity and water level of the hot spring area, disturbance of hot springs, hot springs, soils and rocks, without permission. Helicopters and other manned aircraft may not land within the area without the permission of the Environment Agency. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Skógafoss is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 477/1987. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Camping overnight is only allowed in a designated campsite. This includes tents, motorhomes and campers. Photography, cinemaphotography and events that can affect visitors experience in the area are subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Description of the project:

In Geysir area the project will take place on October 31st and November 4th and 8th 2022. On October 31st the project take place from 12:00-12:45 and will only involve photography and possibly droneflight. On November 4th and 8th the project involves filming, photography and droneflight. The project will take place sometimes between 9:00-13:00 on November 4th and 8:00-18:00 on November 8th 2022. At Skógafoss the project will take place from 10:00-10:45 on November 1st 2022 10:00-10:45 and will only involve photography and possibly droneflight. On November 8th 2022 the project will take place sometime between 8:00-18:00 involves filming, photography and droneflight. There will be no props or sets put up. The crew might go off paths and roads when applicable and only if it is safe and no damage to nature. It is estimated that there will only be one crew of 5 persons that will visit the area each day. Drone will not be used over people and will fly parallel to the photographer.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative effect on nature and conservation value of the site for Skógafoss and Geysir if conditions of the permit are followed. The project might have negative effect on other visitors experience of

the site but if conditions of the permit are followed the Environment Agency considers that the effect can be reduced.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants ITV Studios Netherlands permission on its behalf to fly a drone, film and photograph within Geysir area and Skógafoss as described above on October 31st – November 8th 2022 on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff of the project before work begins.
- The applicant shall inform rangers in the area about their arrival and departure. This is to be done minimum 2 hours before entering the area and again before leaving it.
- If the project dates or description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- When it is necessary to go off-path at Skógafoss, extra care must be taken not to cause damage to terrain, including vegetation, soil and geological formation. All traces of activity must be removed afterwards. Time spent outside authorized paths/tracks/roads should be minimized as possible and only employee that is needed to go off path is allowed to go off path.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks at Geysir.
- The crew must follow rules of conduct that apply to the area.
- A sign that indicates that a permit to film has been obtained from the Environment Agency, must be placed at the site.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- The crew should be conscious of other guests on the sites and make sure that filming causes as little disturbance as possible to other visitors. If the material is meant for public viewing it must be noted in the video/subtext that permission from the Environment Agency was obtained for the filming/photography.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- **Ranger needs to be present when the droneflight takes place at Geysir and Skógafoss in order to approve the flightpath.**
- An unmanned aircraft should never be flown in close proximity to people. Please take precaution not to disturb people's experience, their safety or personal privacy nor the general peace of the protected areas being filmed.
- According to Icelandic law it is forbidden to fly close to cliffs where birds nest. An unmanned aircraft should never be flown near animals or birds, neither in nesting areas nor during nesting season or any other seasonal time when animals or bird habitats are considered vulnerable.
- Flight time should be kept to a minimum.
- If the use of unmanned aircraft causes disturbance to wildlife in the area, its use should be ceased at once.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes taking responsibility of any possible risk of harm to people, fauna and nature and leaving no permanent marks on the site in question.

- Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area.
- For safety reasons, the pilot of an unmanned aerial vehicle must wear marked clothing so that the person can be identified.
 - **For safety reasons, it is prohibited to fly a drone below 50m above Strokkur and Geysir.**
 - **It is forbidden to fly drones in the canyon in front of the waterfall at Skógafoss.**
 - It is forbidden to fly drones next to bird cliffs in a closer proximity than 50 meters if, if birds are in the cliffs.

If the applicant causes damage to nature, according to art. 87 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Environment Agency of Iceland can, according to the Nature Conservation Act, f.e. order the licensee to fix damage to nature and vegetation and/or stop the project.

The Environment Agency of Iceland can according to art. 89 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 change conditions of the permit, add new conditions or withdraw the permit in order to prevent damage to nature if environmental conditions change.

According to art 89. in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 the Environment Agency can withdraw the permit if conditions of the permit are not complied to.

Unmanned aircraft should take off and land in a safe distance from other visitors according to regulation 990/2017 on unmanned aircrafts.

The usage of a drone shall be according to regulation no. 990/2017 on the operation of remotely piloted aircraft (<https://www.icetra.is/aviation/drones/>).

Please note that according to the regulation all drones used for commercial flight need to be registered at the Icelandic Transport Authority.

Permission fee:

Environment Agency of Iceland charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas based on Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee for cinematography and/or photography is 52.600 ISK according to art. 24. b. in the agency's tariff no. 535/2015.

Supervision:

The Environment Agency will supervise the project. The supervisor will be a ranger from the Environment Agency.

Sincerely

Daníel Freyr Jónsson
advisor

Þórdís Vilhelmína Bragadóttir
advisor